

Resolution 2023-03: Snow Days and Suspensions

Drafted by Sycely Wheeles, Dimond High School Adopted April 11, 2023

Whereas, there is no current written policy regarding suspensions in relation to school cancelation;

Whereas, students who receive OSS are not allowed on any ASD campus nor can participate in any school activity during instruction and non instruction days (ie weekends);

Whereas, the ASD Student Handbook is available to the public and is the main source of district written policy related to safety, student rights and responsibilities;

Whereas, in December 2022, when it was asked by an administrator how school cancellations due to weather impact suspensions, the district responded that a school cancellation due to weather does not extend the suspension period or change the return date because it is an unpredictable and unplanned cancellation of school (as compared to an in-service day that is set in the calendar and does not count as a school day)¹;

Whereas, The Anchorage School District affirms the right of all students and employees to pursue their education or occupation with dignity in a safe environment²;

¹ Quote from Whitney D'Atri, Dimond High School Student Services Principal

² Quote from ASD 2022-23 High School Student Handbook, Section I

Whereas, Short-Term Suspension is defined as "...the denial of the right of school attendance either from a single class, more than one class, or any full schedule of classes, and from all other activities, for a limited period of time not to exceed five (5) school days." by Section II C2;

Whereas, students who violate the rules described in the ASD's handbooks should be subject to appropriate disciplinary action;

Whereas, the city of Anchorage received a record amount of 27.65 inches of precipitation in the calendar year of 2022, causing an abnormal amount of school closures, which time was made up for during January-March of 2023;

Therefore it be resolved by ASD Student Advisory Board that the Anchorage School Board should adopt the following policy:

- In the instance of school cancellations due to weather or natural disaster, short-term suspension terms will resume when students return to regular instruction days in the school building.
- 2. This policy will be added to the publicly accessible ASD High School Student Handbook, under Section 2-C2e.

Sources:

Anchorage School District High School Student Handbook

(https://www.asdk12.org/cms/lib/AK02207157/Centricity/Domain/1179/REV_Sep19_22-23_HS-Student-Handbook_Accessible.pdf)

Whitney D'Atri, Dimond High School Student Services Principal Officer Rich Sargent, APD, Dimond High School SRO